

FORM NO. 51-4AA  
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**INFORMATION REPORT**REPORT NO. 

25X1

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Crimea Oblast)

DATE DISTR. 19 Sept. 1952

25X1 SUBJECT Cattle-Raising Sovkhoz

NO. OF PAGES 2

NO. OF ENCLS.  
(LISTED BELOW)SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

25X1

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1. The Sovkhoz Krasnovka, a cattle-raising farm, is located in Kirov Rayon, Crimea Oblast, about 18 km from Feodosiya (45-02N, 35-24E). This sovkhoz was headed by a director who was selected by the Oblast Administration for Livestock Deliveries (Oblastnoye upravleniye zagotovki skota). Assisting the director in managing the sovkhoz were a bookkeeper, a cashier, a veterinarian, and about five or six other people. There were about 50 workers who directly looked after the livestock.
2. Most of the sovkhoz's land, approximately five thousand hectares, was used for grazing purposes. Some of the land, however, was used to raise grain. Approximately 500 hectares of various grains were sown; of this amount, about 100 hectares were used for wheat and the rest for other grains and grasses, principally hay. The wheat had to be delivered to the government, but the other grasses were retained by the sovkhoz for fodder.
3. Steers and sheep were the principal livestock raised by the sovkhoz, but there were also some swine and cows. During the summer there were about 400-500 head of steers and an equal number of sheep. After the fall deliveries of livestock, about 50 - 60 steers and an equal number of sheep remained at the sovkhoz and were kept throughout the winter. The Sovkhoz Krasnovka delivered its livestock to the meat plant in Feodosiya.

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the meat plant nearest to them. If the distance is not too great, as in the case of the Sovkhoz Krasnovka, the animals are herded and driven there; otherwise, they are transported by rail or by truck.

the meat plant in Feodosiya slaughtered the livestock and distributed the meat to various government institutions in the city area.

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the animals were supposed to gain a certain amount of weight each day and that a commission of two or three men from the Oblast Administration visited the sovkhov each month during the summer to weigh the livestock. Each steer was expected to gain from 250-300 grams each day during the summer and each sheep about 30 grams a day.

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this norm was generally met, but in order to insure a maximum weight, the livestock was usually given a considerable amount of water to drink just before being weighed. From early spring until the fall deliveries in September or October, the livestock was out grazing. During the winter months hay and straw were the basic fodder. Occasionally a little ground barley was fed them and, even less frequently, oil cake which was obtained from Feodosiya. The oil cake, however, was usually fed to swine. The winter diet was rather inadequate, and the animals were generally quite thin when they were put out to pasture in the spring. In the spring of 1950 about 40 head of cattle were slaughtered by the sovkhov and sent to Feodosiya to prevent starvation. (This situation was apparently brought about through poor planning. Twice the usual number of livestock was retained by the sovkhov during the winter, and no provisions were made to guarantee an adequate amount of fodder.) Each spring the government delivered additional livestock to the sovkhov. the government obtained this livestock as taxes from kolkhozv and individuals.

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5. The herdsmen, about 10 in number, were the best paid workers on the sovkhov. Inasmuch as the amount of money they received was dependent on the weight gained by the livestock, it behooved them to look after the animals carefully. They earned most of their money during the summer months and received an average annual income of from 15,000 to 20,000 rubles. Tractor operators, about six in number, earned about 4,000 to 6,000 rubles a year. The remaining workers averaged from 2,000 to 4,000 rubles a year.
6. Although the Sovkhoz Krasnovka had little mechanization, it was sufficient for a livestock-raising farm. Two pre-war tractors and one pre-war combine were enough to service the small amount of grain and grasses which the sovkhov raised. This equipment was in a poor state of repair but somehow managed to keep operating. Very few spare parts were available, and there were no facilities on the sovkhov for major repairs. The sovkhov had a small forge shop, but it was only equipped to make very minor repairs. Besides this small shop, the sovkhov also contained a small office for the director and his staff, a barn where the cattle were kept during the winter, a small store, a school, a barn for the storage of fodder, and about 20 small dwellings where the sovkhov workers lived.

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